CUT MOTION No. 6

Tank for Pattancheri

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,19,428 for Village Panchayats by Re. 1—Tank for Pattancheri, Chittur Taluk.* This is a matter which the Council has passed some years back and the Minister has promised to have the tank very soon. Last time he said that the matter was in the hands of the Diwan Peishkar and acquisition proceedings were almost over. For last three years an amount was budgetted for the tank and we have not got any tank now. No progress is made. It is to bring the matter to the notice of the Minister that I have tabled this motion.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* The question is the acquisition of a particular tank recommended by the members representing the Chittur Taluk. Land acquisition was taken up by the Diwan Peishkar and unfortunately the party has put in a petition to the highest authorities and acquisition has been stayed and further enquiries are being made with the result that the work is delayed.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Are they not to have any tank?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* These are all accidents I should say. Land Acquisition petition have to be enquired into, complaints have to be looked into.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Petitions are all disposed of.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Still another to be disposed.

Cut motion, by leave, withdrawn

Demand of Rs. 4,19,428 under Village Panchayats put and carried

3. Panchayats—Cranganur—Rs. 2,286

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* I move for an allotment of Rs. 2,286 under 3—Panchayats—Cranganur.

Demand put and carried

20. Education—Rs. 31,59,315

Mr. P. Sankaran Nambiar *(Director of Public Instruction):* Sir, I request that the House would be pleased to vote an allotment of Rs. 31,59,315 under 20 Education—State—for the year, 1120 M.E.

This House was pleased to sanction, according to the Revised Budget, an allotment of Rs. 25,64,900 for 1119 M.E.

The increase in the budget for 1120, now asked for, is Rs. 6,73,000.

This increase is due mainly to.—

(*i*) the large provision made for noon-feeding of school-children

(*ii*) the enhancement of the rate and scope of dearness allowance, and

(*iii*) the cost of additional establishments.

It is but to be expected that a large proportion of the allotment goes to Primary Education, which directly takes up 20 lakhs out of the total of 32 lakhs. Universal and free Basic Education is the crying need of the hour, and fortunately in our State, even in the absence of complusion, there has been such ready response from the public in the matter of educating children that our problem in many places is not want of pupils, but want of educational facilities for them. Wherever the Department is satisfied that there is real demand for primary schools, recognition is given to them, and after duly stabilising them, aid too is granted. The whole policy in this matter is being reviewed by the Code Revision Committee and Government orders passed on the basis of its recommendations will finally settle the question whether the category of Unaided, but recognised, primary schools should continue to exist hereafter. Last year (1118 M.E.) we had more than 650 schools for primary education, with 1½ lakhs of boys and girls studying in them, and their numbers have gone up still higher since.

The noon-feeding that has been started on a wide scale this year bids fair to attract still larger numbers to the schools. The sum of 4 lakhs that has been set apart for this purpose cannot possibly be spent for anything better. The effects of malnutrition on primary school children are so manifestly disastrous, that unless they are well fed materially, their intellecutal feeding will be productive of little good.

But even though all the children are brought to school, success will not be achieved unless the teaching is efficient and the teachers are reasonably contented. A more liberal scale of Dearness Allowanee to them has been provided for in the Budget. It has mounted up to 6 lakhs (while it was 3·8 lakhs only last year).

The advantages of this dearness allowance are obviously augmented by enabling the teachers, as far as exigencies of service permit, to work in their respective native places or in localities for

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which they have a preference on grounds of conveniences of living. Bearing this fact in mind, I have been endeavouring to post and retransfer teachers to schools of their own choice, consistently, of course, with the interests of the institutions themselves, so far as it could be done without "robbing Peter to reward Paul".

But it sometimes happens, as I experienced recently, that teachers in adequate numbers are not forthcoming to work in certain schools, of which they seem to fight shy, perhaps because conditions of living in the areas where these schools are situated are not agreeable to them and at the same time natives of those localities are not available to staff these schools completely. It is for the most part in such cases that complaints of insufficient staffing become vociferous in some areas, but these are immediately attended to and the necessary reinforcements sent to the understaffed schools forthwith even at the risk of some personal inconvenience to that teachers concerned.

An adequate supply of trained and competent teachers is the fundamental need in education. The Central Advisory Board of Education have adopted the principle that all teachers must be trained. The reorganisation of our Training Institution is thus a timely move in the right direction. There is also scope for a Training College in the State and the possibilities of starting one will be explored this year.

Secondary education claims 8 lakhs or 25 per cent of the total expenditure.

It has been the practice of the Department, as far as possible, to restrict governmental agency in regard to the ownership of secondary schools. It, however, presupposes the maintenance of an efficient Inspectorate to ensure that public funds are spent fruitfully and the prescribed rules strictly adhered to. Special provision has been made in the next year's budget to strengthen the Inspectorate. The proportion of our expenditure on Direction and Inspection works out at less than 5 per cent of the total.

Under Collegiate Education, the allotment provided comes to 6 per cent of the total.

Besides the further expansion of some of the existing academic courses, provision has been made for starting what may be called the nucleous of a Technological Institute in the Maharaja's College where research work in the analysis and standardisation of indigenous drugs will, among other things, be taken up in the initial stages. The University will only be too glad to see more courses of a useful kind opened in the College, such as Geography, Geology, and Botany, but its attitude to the starting of Honours Courses in Mofussil Colleges has to be ascertained. Nevertheless we need not altogether give up ideals. To have a full-fledged University unit in the State with all Courses, both in Arts and in Sciences, both in Pass and in Honours Courses, is no doubt, a consummation devoutly to be wished. But I am afraid the ideal may be shipwrecked on the hard rock of finance.

In these few explanatory notes I have tried to elucidate the position of the Department in relation to most of the Cut Motions tabled for discussion. If any further explanation is necessary, I shall offer it as and when the motions come up.

Cut Motions

Mr. K. T. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Before moving the cut motion No. 4 in the printed list I wish to know whether this question had been brought to the notice of the Code revision Committee.

Mr. P. Sankaran Nambiar *(Director of Public Instruction):* It will be.

Mr. K. T. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* I don't move.

CUT MOTION No. 7

Philosophy Course in the Maharaja's College

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,50,331 for the Collegiate Education by Re. 1. *To urge on the Government to establish a Philosophy chair in the Maharaja's College*

Mr. President, The necessity for all courses in a first grade College conducted by a State ought to be well known to the authorities concerned and if as stated by the Hon'ble Member for education in moving the demand that the consummation of the ideals may be shipwrecked on the rock of finance I do not think that that argument will be advanced as far as this cut motion is concerned. After all the cost for the introduction of the course in Philosophy is not comparatively speaking very large. As far as the intermediate classes are concerned there is Logic already provided in the College. There is a well equipped staff and a little addition to that will certainly suffice for the teaching of Philosophy for the B.A. Classes. I hope that the Government will be pleased to accept the cut. At any rate I commend this for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I rise to support this proposition for having a chair of Philosophy in our College. At the time when the college was raised to a first grade one it was

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